· LITERATURE IN GERMANY.

The Last Nights of King John of Saxony-His Memoirs-His Interest in Literature.

NEW GERMAN PUBLICATIONS.

Literary Production and Consumption in Germany.

Works on Art, Industry, Travel, Biography.

Schliermann-Vambery - Lasker - Frederick the Great-Benedix-Bret Harte's Welcome in Germany.

LEIPSIC, Nov. 23, 1873. Lamented King John of Saxony, prince of letters and of blood, still occupies a loyal portion of at-tention in the literary world of Germany. He was a good King and a wonderful scholar; Catholic in religion, universal in spirit and dearly beloved by his Protestant subjects. Scores of anecdotes are now related of him-of his wanderings incognito among his people, of his taking upon himself duties which he loved, visiting the schools in the remotest parts of his kingdom, and evincing at all times a vital interest in the progress of art, science and literature in his little land. He was master of eleven languages, and it is related that, in order to pass away the long, weary, sleepless nights that preceded his death, he would desire his attendants to read to him selections from Latin authors and the Church Fathers: from the Italian classics and his favorite authors of French classic literature; from Milton's "Paradise Lost" and Shakespeare's sonnets, all in the original languages; and from the German classics, especially Voss's translation of Homer's "Hiad" and "Odyssey." What an insight does this fact give us into the monarch's high culture and love for literature ! KING JOHN'S MEMOIRS.

It was a peculiar fancy that led the monarch, whenever he suffered from unusual pain at night, to call for his own written memoirs. He loved thus to forget his pain in living over again his rich and eventful life. He listened with rapt attention to the account he wrote in youth of the first news of the battle of Jena reaching the Saxon Court, when Saxony and Prussia fought side by side against Napoleon. The portion of the me moirs relating to the revolutionary year of 1848 is full of interest; and those relating to 1866 and 1870 are said to give highly important historical details. His Italian journey, where he first became enthusiastic in the study of Dante, and when, on the way, he first made the acquaintance and secured the love of Princess Amalia at the Munich Court, and sang with Shakespeare-

Were I crowned the most imperial monarch

were I crowned the most imperial monarch,
Thereof most worthy; were I the fairest youth
That ever made eye swerve, had force and
knowledge
More than was ever man's, I would not prize them
Without her love his wooing and marriage, his life in the midst of his family, devoted to study, until he was called to be king, and his later relations to his country-all

are faithfully recorded in these memoirs as if for an autobiography. KING JOHN'S LITERARY FAME

was firmly established by his translation of Dante. He published the first 10 songs of the "Inferno" in 1828, as manuscript, and 10 years later the translation was completed, it is said, without any foreign aid. Encouraged by the reception given to his work by the scientific and literary world be determined to give his translation to the world. He adopted the pseudonym of "Philalethes"-the friend of truth-and in 1839-40 and 1849 the two octavo volumes of his work, enriched with a valuable commentary, appeared. A popular ediwas first published in 1865 and 1866. I need not enter into any criticism of King John's labors. He is the author of many unpubtished essays on scientific and juristic subjects-As a mere youth he wrote a tragedy in verse entitled "Pertinax." which has many brilliant passages. Some of his poems have been published in the Saxon papers. One written on the death of one of his children is full of tender feeling and netic beauty. He was eminently a lover of classic literature, which he considered to be the true basis for elevated culture, as did Goethe, Now that the King is dead the chief cities of Saxony are eager to erect him monuments. Leipsic, which he called the "Pearl of the Saxon crown," which versity and its trade, will be among the first to raise one. And, indeed, King John deserves the veneration of all who are interested in the progress and prosperity of literature, art and science. King Albert, the present King, has never shown any decided literary talent. His education was almost entirely devoted to military and historical studies.

LITERARY PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION. Turning to the literary productions of Germany, we can assume with tolerable certainty that the publications of 1873 will far exceed the number issued in previous years. Leipsic book printers never remember to have had such a busy year. The 28 large book printing firms of that city are so crowded with work that most of them now refuse to make any contracts except for completion after Christmas. The book dealers, on the other hand, are complaining that the market is overstocked with new publications, and assure us that the consumption does not keep pace with the production, There is certainly no perceptible increase in th demand for books in Germany. The sale of new publications is confined to a very small class, and the buyers of lighter literature is confined, to a great extent, to the circulating libraries. German books are too expensive for people of small means; they are issued in an unbecoming form, in unhandy paper covers, necessitating the further expense of binding perore being ready for use, though the English custom of issuing popular works in handsome bindings is fast gaining ground. It is a remarkable and no less surprising fact that although Germany leads the world in the number of literary productions annually issued, her people spend a very small amount of money annually in the purchase of books. Herr Hirth has recently made some statistical calculations by which he proves that the annual consumption in Germany amounts only to eight silver groschen (about 18 cents) per head of the population; that the total amount of book saies in Germany is not so much as the annual duty levied and collected by the government on spirit ous liquors. It is unfortunate for German authors and publishers that they have such a poor market at home. The former would rejoice to have a bt. erary convention established between Germany merica. The latter would thank the gods the American duty on literary products were abol-

WORKS ON ART MANUFACTURES. Some interesting and valuable publications have been issued by the German publishers during the past three or four weeks. One of the more valu ble works of the month is connected with the Vienna Exposition. Sceiman, of Leipsic, publishes a superbly illustrated work, in 12 numbers, giving artistic results of the Exposition. "Art and Art Manufactures at the Vienna Exposition' ("Kunst und Kunstgewerbe auf der Wiener Weltisstellung"), edited by Carl von Lutzow, with the assistance of eminent scientific writers. is a work that will be welcomed by all persons who have visited Vienna, or by those who, not having done 80, wish to know what progress art and art man. ufactures have made since 1867. The essays of the first two numbers are very thorough, each treating of a single department:- (1) "The Exposition Grounds," with Illustrations of the various structures; (2) "The Buildings of the Exposition;" (3) "Art Manufactures at the Exhibition"-the first part of which, relating to household

modes of furnishing nomes in France, England, editor of the Gegenwart, the German Dumas, Jr., Germany and Austria. Eacs number contains 25 or more excellent wood engravings. The work is small quarto. An equally brilliant illustrated work, also in monthly instalments (folio), is issued at Stuttgart, by Spemann, entitled "The Work of Art" ("Das Kunsthandwerk"), which is to contain a collection (illustrations and text) of the models of art and art products of all periods. The publisher's intention is to bring in carefully executed pictures, wood and tint, fac-similes of the treasures contained in the public and private collections, museums, churches, &c., of Germany, Austria and neighboring countries-in fact, to make the work an "atlas to the history of art products." The work is especially valuable for the decorative manufacturer, the art collector and the scholar. It is edited by Dr. Bucher, custodian and secretary of the Imperial Austrian Museum for Art and Industry in Vienna, and Professor Gnauth, in Stutigart. Both works are a credit to their publishers. Spemann, of Stuttgart, publishes in photographs, from the original cartoons, 20 facsimiles of B. Neher's celebrated frescoes in the Schiller and Goethe room at Weimar, with text by the art historian, Professor Lubke. GERMANY AND ROME.

The Germans have a peculiar admiration for ancient Roman life and history. Gregorovius devoted eight well-written thorough volumes to his "History of the City of Rome in the Middle Ages," and had the satisfaction of receiving the public thanks of the Municipal Council of the Eternal City for his labors. The eight volumes treat of the history of the city from the fifth to the sixteenth century, and the concluding volume of the period from the death of Pope Alexander VI. to the death of Clement VII. (1503-1535.) It is published by Cotta. The second number of a large quarto, beautifully illustrated work, entitled, "Pictures of Ancient Rome," ("Aus Altrömischer Zeit Culturbilder"), by Theodor Simons, with illustrations by the celebrated Munich artist, Alexander Wagner, appears as a Christmas gift volume. The present instalment is made up of four exceedingly interesting illustrated essays:-1. A Gladiator Fight and a Wild Beast Fight in the Arena at Pompeii, 79 A. D.: 2. A Charlot Race in the Circus Maximus at Rome, 10 A. D.; A Banquet at the Palace of Lucullus, 74 B. C., and a Marriage Festival in Carthage, 224 B. C. Both author and artist appear to comprehend the spirit of the times they illustrate, and their united labors make a most valuable and artistic work. The author has a thorough knowledge of ancient Roman life, and possesses imaginative power enough to make his writings intensely interesting. In power of delineation he is fully equal to Bulwer, and, in thoroughness in whatever he undertakes to describe, to Gregorovius.

SCHLIERMANN'S TROJAN DISCOVERIES. The new publications of Brockhaus (Leipsic) embrace some exceedingly interesting and valuable scientific works, first of all "Trojan Antiquities," by D1. Schliermann, renowned for his excavations on the site of ancient Troy. These excavations have been carried on by the entustastic antiquarian (and his wife) from October-1871, to July of the present year, and settle, as he thinks, the question as to the exact site of ancient Troy. The atlas accompanying the work will consist of 217 photographic tables, a number of views and plans, and pictures of some 4,000 objects discovered-the richest material ever brought into a single work-say the publishers. The objects discovered by Dr. Schliermann are at present in Athens. The text of the work will, judging from the essays that have appeared from time to time in the Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung and in the Heraln from his pen, be full of romantic interest. The German archeologist, a man of wealth, and enthusiastic in his labors, offered some years ago as a prize his own person in marriage to any young lady who could repeat the "Hiad" by heart, The prize was won by a modest, enthusiastic, but not rich young lady of Atnens, who has ever since been the constant help and companion of her hus

band. GEOGRAPHICAL WORKS. Arminius Vambery, who is at present about the only authority on Central Asiatic matters we have issues a volume of more than ordinary interest just now. In his "Central Asia and the Anglo-Russian Boundary Question" (Brockhaus), the author has collected, arranged and enlarged his numerous essays written from 1867 to 1873, during the progress of the Russians in Asia, and published mainly in the German review "Unsere Zeit." Vambery is well known as a bitter antagonist of Russia, and has been warning England for years past to prepare for the inevitable conflict with the Muscovite, who, he says, has dishonest intentions renowned Magyar traveller or not we must admit that he knows whereof he speaks. Speaking of the Magyars we would median F. V. Loeher's other Hungarians), which will be read with interest, especially in view of the approaching millennial anniversary of the Magyars settling on the Danube. The first volume of "History of the Moors in Spain up to the Conquest of Andalusia by the Almoravides" (711-1110), by R. Dozy, is published by a Leipsic house. Since we have not before us the two volumes published by Hartleben, of Vienna, describing voyages to and around the moon, we cannot say much of them. The first is entitled "From the Earth to the Moon, Direct Route in 97 Hours, 29 Minutes:" the second, "Vovage Around the Moon." We recommend them to the notice, however, of the Graphic and P. T. Barnum. The fourth instalment of "The Franco-German War," edited by the Prussian General Staff, just issued, contains the march of the Third Army to the Moselle and the events connected with the First and Second armies up to the evening of the 14th of August, with four plans, seven lithographed sketches and order of battle.

POLITICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL WORKS. German political works have generally very little interest for American readers. The only book of importance announced in this department is by Deputy Lasker, of the German Parliament who is editing a selection of his essays, lectures and speeches, to be published by Brocknaus. The first volume promises to be of more than ordinary interest, and will contain his essays on the Prussian constitution and its development. It will be published as a separate work under the title of 'History of the Prussian Constitution." A lew interesting biographical and autobiographical works have appeared during the month, among which we may mention the first volume of the renowned Prussian historian, Droysen's "Frederick the Great" and the second half volume of "Frederick the Great's Selected Works," translated into German by Merkens, with an introduction by Professor Wegele. The present volume contains Frederick's "History of My Own Timely, but hastily, written are a series of pamphlet biographies by Brachvogel of "The Men of Modern Germany." The lives of the late King John of Saxony; his successor, King Albert; Prince Frederic Carl, Crown Prince of Prussia; Ludwig II. of Bavaria, Kaiser Withelm and Moltke and Roon have so lar been published in this series. Adolph Strodtmann, the well-known biographer of the poet Heine, is preparing a complete edition of well as a biography of the poet. Strodtmann is in possession of a "surprisingly rich material" for the latter work, and nearly a thousand letters written by Burger to Goethe, Wieland, Voss and others of his renowned contemporaries. POETS AND POETRY-DRAMA.

German poets of celebrity seem to be resting on their laurels. We have scarcely anything but new and collected editions announced, although these are in many cases very welcome. Hoffmann von Failersieben is preparing a complete edition of his poems, and intends to give in an appendix all the musical compositions for his effusions. The German dramatic poets and authors have been drawn by the appearance of Roderick Benedix's "Shakespearomania" into a warm conflict as to the merits and demerits of the Swan of Avon. Poor Benedix is dead, and therefore his work is treated with tenderness. He was a fruitful writer of comedies, but by no means a genius. He drew his subjects from ordinary life, and became exceedingly popu-

getting that Goethe himself received much of his inspiration from a study of Shakespeare.

AMERICA IN GERMANY. An entirely new translation of Walter Scott, by Robert Koenig, is being published in Germany. Friedrich Spielhagen's "Problematic Natures" ap pears in a sixth edition. A new, enlarged (thirdedition of Meyer's "Conversations-Lexicon" is an) nounced. Berthold Auerbach's new novel awaited with considerable impatience. The main characteristics of the work relate to the Franco-German war, in which the author was a looker-on in Alsace and Strasburg. We are told that the work will have considerable autobiographical interest, inasmuch as it will contain the experiences and observations of the author's whole life. translation of Bret Harte, under the title, "Die Argonautengeschichten, spanischen und amerikanischen Sagen," is published in Leipsic, and is warmly welcomed by the German press. The Berlin National Zeitung compares Harte to Edgar A. Poe, without the delirium tremens of the latter and in the annual literary report, published as a preface to Seeman's "Annual Christmas Book Catalogue," he is thus characterized :- "A Californian poet! Here we have one for the first time! We are, indeed, inclined to be distrustful when we hear of a Californian poet. We can hardly believe in the possibility of a poet developing on such soil and in such society (%). But it is a fact. We have here to do with a true poet. He possesses the 'divine spark,' which only needs the awakening opportunity to call it into being."

LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.

"SKETCHES OF IRISH SOLDIERS IN EVERY LAND" is the title of a very neat little book recently published by J. Alexander McGee, New York, from the pen of Colonel James E. McGee. The sketches, over 30 in number, are short, concise and well written.

MR. RUSKIN, in the thirty-fourth number of his "Fors Clavigera," attacks Professor John Tyndall for the emptiness of his book on 'The Forms of He ridicules the Professor's dramatic pictures of Alpine scientists wading "breast deep through snow," which, Mr. Ruskin says, as a matter of hard fact, is impracticable.

A TRANSLATION OF "The Deicides," by J. Cohen, the well known French journalist and theologian, has been made by Anna Goldsmid and published by Deutsch & Co. It is a review of the life of Jesus Christ from the Jewish standpoint.

AMONG RECENT SCIENTIFIC BOOKS out in London Mr. George Henslow's "Theory of Evolution of Living Things" is highly spoken of.

THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT has had Macedo's book on the "Chorography of Brazil" translated into English to attract emigrants. But the English of it is execrable enough, as may be seen by this lucid sample :-

In what has been just shown, the riches of Bra zli in the three kingdoms of nature—that is, in the magnificent and extraordinary opulence of its soil, try possesses united in that great degree—is stated in a moderate description, and that trebly deficient in order that, above all, the extraordinary grandilnence of truth shall not compromise and preju-te the verisimilitude in the opinion of those who do not yet know the marvels of Brazilian nature, and therefore have a right to be slow in belief of the exposition of the marvellous.

THE NOVELIST, PAUL DE KOCK, could write with nothing except goose quills, which he cut himself, and he wrote a very fine, feminine hand, exceedingly legible. He would never read his own proof sheets, because typographical errors threw him inte a passion, he considering them inexcusable because of the clearness of his copy.

THE Saturday Review praises Charles G. Leland's "English Gypsies" for its "keen perception of character, sympathy with native humor and power of picturesque description." He traces the gypsies back to Hindostan. There is in no other race in Great Britain so much that is quaint or well adapted to the purposes of the novelist.

"THE LIFE, REMINISCENCES AND PERSONAL RECOL-LECTIONS OF EDWIN FORREST," the great American tragedian, by James Rees (Colley Cibber), which has been appearing for many months past, in weekly instalments, in a Philadelphia newspaper, is now in press and will be published in a few days in book form by T. B. Peterson & Brothers. The author has written and added to the work several introductory chapters, which contain a full and complete history of Mr. Forrest's life from the time of his birth until his first appearance on the stage. He has also carefully revised and rewritten the

Mr. Ruskin says of Voltaire that "his head was as destitute of imaginative power as it is possible for the nealthy cerebral organization of a highly developed mammalian to be."

"THE STORY OF THE STICK," from the French of Anthony Real, is announced in London. It covers very much the same ground as Mr. Cooper's lately published "History of the Rod."

NEW PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

From Harper Brothers :- Wilkie Collins' "Basil." "The Dead Secret" and "Man and Wife" (new edition); "Memories of Many Men and Some Wo men." by Maunsell B. Field; "Hints and Helps in Pastoral Theology," by William S. Pinmer, D. D., "The Best Methods of Counteracting Modern Infidelity," by Theodore Christileb, Ph. D.

From G. W. Carleton & Co:-"Threading My Way," an autobiography by Robert Daie Owen; "Fanny Fern, a Memorial Volume, containing her Select Writings and a Memoir," by James Parton; wattle Wanderer" and other Sunday stories, b Samuel Wilberiorce, D. D., late Bishop of Win-

Pictures of Europe," by Enzabeth Peake; "Liberty and Law Under Pederative Government," Britton A. Hill.

From Scribner, Armstrong & Co. :- "My Kalulu, rince, King and Slave," by Henry M. Stanley; "Diamonds and Precious Stones: A Popular Ac count of Gems," from the French of Louis Diculafait, by Fanction Sanford.

From Claxton, Remsen & Hofelfinger, Philadelphia:-"Notes on the Exodus," by Alfred Nevin, D. D., LL. D.; "The World to Blame," by Waldorf

H. Philips.
From E. P. Dutton & Co.:—"Mrs. Mainwaring's Journal," by Emma Marshall.

From the National Temperance Society and Pub. lication Society: -"Nettie Loring: A Tale of Christian Influences and Temperance Principles," by Elizabeth Downs. From Dodd & Mead:-"The Women of the

Arabs," by Rev. Henry Harris Jessup, D. D. From A. S. Barnes & Co. :- "Metrical Tune Book: Designed to be Used With Any Hymn Book," by "Midland Poems," by Orsamus Charles Dake,

From Procter Brothers, Gloucester, Mass, :- "The Fishermen's Memorial and Record Book," by George H. Procter.

FAIR IN AID OF ST. GABRIEL'S CHURCH. A fair will be held in the hall attached to St. Ga-

briel's church, commencing on Monday, December 29, and continuing during the month of January, in order to raise funds for the support of the school of the parish. This school, numbering some of the government aid it is solely dependent to the support on the voluntary contributions of the parishoners. Hence the object of the fair is to obtain means to meet the current expense. Independently of the numerous attraction with which this fair will be replet there is a nobler incentive to the public of the most disheartening difficulties struggle to establish a school suited to the requirements of the public of the most disheartening difficulties struggle. to establish a school suited to the requirements of the children of his parish, and no one will deny that has any knowledge of the character and merit of St. Gabriel's school but that he has nobly suc-

The seventeenth annual ball of the Young Men's Association for the benefit of the Roman Catholic g of a single department:—(i) "The Exin Grounds," with illustrations of the various
ires; (2) "The Buildings of the Exposition;"
the Exhibition"—the
part of which, relating to household
tions is a valuable illustration of the various
tions. Is a valuable illustration of the various

The decause he was understood by the masses.
Henrich Laube tells us that Benedix looked sustres; (2) "The Buildings of the Exposition;"
preciously at all imported works for the stage, and
his whole life was a systematic opposition of
Shakespeare and his "overloaded language," as
tions is a valuable illustration of the various

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ART MATTERS.

Christmas Curiosities at Sypher's.

It is safe to make the statement that yesterday

not a store in the city that contained any attrac-

tions having relation to the holiday season was

left unvisited. Among the establishments which were thronged was that of Mr. Sypher, No. 593 Broadway, the passages between the countless objects of art and souvenirs of antiquity being almost incapable of being threaded. To some of these objects we have already referred, but there has since been an accession of new ones, if those can be called new which have the flavor of an tiquity about them. At any rate they are new to the public here, although they have had quite a career abroad. Among them is a little old-fashioned organ, made of mahogany and lavishiy adorned with giit work curiously chased. The chasing was done by hand long before the processes at present in use were invented, and when the liberal use of quick silver shortened the life of the workman. This little organ, which is about as wide and as long as an average sewing machine, and about one foot higher, contains seven cylinders and is capable of playing 28 airs. It is interesting in itself, but it is playing 28 airs. It is interesting in itseil, out it is doubly interesting because it was formerly the property of the Empress Josephine, the unfortunate and unhappy Empress, who, when questioned by a peasant ignorant of her rank, replied, "I am poor Josephine." The organ has been in this country but a short time and was accidentally snapped up by its present proprietor from a private connoisseur, whom circumstances rendered willing to dispose of it. The tunes are modern, the machinery for performing them having been inserted since. Near the organ hangs a genuine piece of Gobelin tapestry, about 200 years old and 10 feet by 14 in size. The colors are as iresh as though the work were finished only yesterday. Gobelin tapestries in this country are rare. To speak candidly they are not perfectly appreciated here. You do not often meet a man, even a coniessed amateur or curiosity hunter, who possesses many relies of this description. We know of one gentleman in this city, a very accomplished antiquarian, who owns several pieces; but such an instance in this country is infrequent. And yet these tapestries are often very beautiful—beautiful in themselves and in the traditions which linger around them. The patient workers upon them may be said literally to have woven their lives into the fabric, so lacorious was the task, so vast was the time consumed. The subject in the piece we have been speaking of is scene in the garden at Versailles. On the opposite side of the church of St. Roche, at Paris. It represents the entombinent of Christ, and is a most dignified and noble piece of work. All we hope is that the French government will not make a requisition for it, as they recently did for a piece of the Column in the Place Vendome lately in Mr. Sypher's hands. This Place Vendome relic had been purchased by that gentieman as a veritable curiosity, and he had been flattering himself on being able to dispose of it at a price proportionate to its interest and value. One fine October morning, however, a representative of the F doubly interesting because it was formerly the might have rested, and which is valued at \$500. At very fine portrait of Rembrandt, which every expert in pictures would be interested in examining, occupies an out-of-the-way nook, and ought to be more prominently hung. The objects we have mentioned have not, indeed, the gloss of newness, but they fill a very valuable position in the Christmas chiarascuro, and an inspection of them is almost as interesting as a visit to the Metropolitan Museum.

THE HORACE GREELEY ALBUM

The committee of the Common Council appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the presentation to the family of the late Horace Greeley of the album prepared by the Common Council met yesterday, in the Aldermanic Chamber, Alderman McCafferty in the chair. In consequence of the absence from the city of Mr. Whitelaw Reid the committee adjourned till Wednesday next, at twelve o'clock, without transacting any business except that of passing a resolution asking the Mayor to make the presentation to the lamily.

MARRIAGE OF THE DUKE OF HAMILTON. Grand Display of Presents.

(From the Daily Telegraph, Dec. 9.1 Kinbolton Castle is at present the scene of a orilliant gathering to celebrate the nuptials of the Duke of Hamilton and Lady Mary Montague, eldest daughter of the Duke of Manchester. Among the distinguished guests are the Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Duchess of Hamilton, Princess Monaco, Prince Louis Esterhazy, Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, Lady Blanche Somerset, Earl and Countess of Sandwich, Earl of Gosford, Lord Ossuiston, Baron Detwyll, Hen. H. Bourke, Mr. Henry Chaplin, M. P., and others, Lady Mary's trousseau and bridal presents were exhibited yesterday in the White Hall, and were inspected by numerous persons, Among the bridal gifts is a valuable Indian shawl, by the Queen; a gold brooch, surmounted with coronet and bearing the Empress' megallion likeness, by the Empress of Germany; an enamel and gold-mounted photographic frame, and his Majesty's likeness, by the Emperor of Germany; an antique cross, set with precious stones, by the Prince and Princess of Wales; a set of crystal studs, set in gold, by the Prince and Princes Sedward of Saxe-Weimar; a gold bracelet of several thousand pounds value by the Duke of Hamilton's Lanarkshire tenantry. There are other costly presents by the Duke and Duchess of Manchester and members of the family, the Marquis of Hartington, Earl Granville, Baroness Lionel Rothschild, Lord Ossulston, Earl and Countess of Sandwich, Countess of Tankerville, Marchioness of Westimster, Countess of Meterorin, &c. Princess Monaco, Prince Louis Esterhazy, Duke

RAILROAD DISASTERS AND PERILS.

Three Men Killed by Collision Freight Trains. PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Dec. 20, 1873.

Two freight trains on the Eastern Railroad colided at Kennebunk last night, and were so badly smashed that no train has passed since. One may is reported to have been killed, and two are miss ing. An alarm was sounded here by the whistle early this morning and a relief train sent down.

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 20, 1873.

The accident on the Eastern Railroad occurred between Kennebunk and Day's siding. Freight 'W" left here for Boston at twenty minutes to eight, which was three hours later than the usual time. Near Day's siding the train broke apart time. Near Day's siding the train broke apart, and the engineer ran ahead to avoid being struck by the rear part, it being a down grade. He ran on the siding, and then, finding that the balance of the train did not overtake him, ran back to get it. While so doing freight "F," from Boston, ran into him. The extent of the damage is unknown, but a wrecking train has gone out to the scene of the disaster. Three men were killed—a conductor, brakeman and freman—and two unknown men were injured. The Puliman train had safely passed the point where the collision occurred.

Names of the Killed and Injured. Роктамочти, N. H., Dec. 20, 1873.

The names of the persons killed by the collision between freight trains at Kennebunk this morning are reported as follows:-Conductor, Albert Bisbee, of Saco, Me.; brakeman, Milan Fitch, of Seabrook, N. H., and fireman, Sheburne. They all belonged to the train coming from the eastward. Theodore Davidson, of Fortsmouth, N. H., had an

Killed in Jumping from a Moving Car. BOSTON, Dec. 20, 1873. James F. Wall, residing in Watertown, and con

nected with a publishing house in Hanover street, Boston, was killed last night in jumping from a moving train near this station into a culvert. WORCESTER, Dec. 20, 1873.

A police officer discovered a horse and wagon caught fast in the Norwich and Worcester Railroad bridge, over Still River, near this city, this morning, just before the steamboat train arrived.

The owner of the team, Patrick Kane, of Leicester, is missing. The police will drag the river, expecting to find the body.

A CLERK ROBS HIS EMPLOYER.

SYRACUSE, Dec. 20, 1873. Herbert C. Brown, for the past three years ; rusted clerk of C. S. Ball, jeweller, last night nelted up a quantity of silverware, valued at about \$3,000, with which he decamped. It is ascertained he purchased a railroad ticket for Oswego and left in the cars. The police are in pursuit of the young man, who is only is years old.

THE FASHIONS.

Evening Dresses, Dinner Dresses, Ball Dresses, Fancy Dresses, Walking Dresses and Riding Dresses.

The Parlors of the Modistes in Full Bloom.

Yesterday morning was one of the jubilees of nature. The fog lifted itself, the blue sky was visible, the sunshine showered down liberally, and the streets were alive with shoppers. A large proportion of these shoppers visited the toy stores and the book stores in quest of the publications and joujoux to which reference has been made in the HERALD during the past week. A certain proportion, however, repaired to the homes of fashion, with which several of the quieter and more respectable streets at right angles to Broadway abound. And it is a remarkable thing that Fashion is always at home. She always has something fresh to say, something new to show you, some unique caprice to set off. We might almost travesty St. Paul and say, "And now abideth these three-Faith, Hope and Fashion, and the greatest of these is Fashion." We shall not make any more apologies for this expensive and eccentric goddess than are her due. We acknowledge that she leads men and women to destruction, that she sets up false standards to which her worshippers must bend the knee, that she monopolizes time which might be much more profitably employed, that she is a great promoter of heartburn and envy, and that her votaries are little better than slaves. All this is too sadly true. But, then, Fashion is an inevitability that there is no abolish ing. Her dynasty never wears out. If we dethrone one fashion another immediately occupies the vacant place. The moment we exclaim, Queen is dead," we are obliged to shout, "Long live the Queen!" Fashion is one of the conditions of existence, and abounds as much in Typee as Murray Hill. There would have been a fashion in the very nudity of Paradise had the apple remained indefinitely untouched. It is useless to try to escape from an institution which runs in the blood. Let us rather look on the bright side of the matter and felicitate ourselves that it is no worse. The fashions of civilization often are to the body what good manners are to the mind-setting it off, embellishing and recommending it, and enabling it to make its way with greater smoothness and decorum. We have little patience with husbands, fathers, sons and brothers who do not sympathize to some extent with the fashions of the gentler sex. Extravagances and caprices there may be in this field; but there is a substratum of so much that is sensible and artistic that we have little prejudice in favor of those of the masculine sex who do not take the trouble to find it out. Perhaps American gentlemen are less ignorant and bigoted in this respect than the gentlemen of most other civilized nations. The American gentleman likes to see a well-dressed woman and, as a rule, is willing to defray all the wardrobe expense of those female members of his family who have a right to claim his support. We do not know that a much more persistent pull at masculine purse strings, to defray expenses of this character, has ever been made than now. If any one is inclined to believe in the existence of a panic let him visit our milliners and dressmakers, and the corresponding departments of stores where bonnets and costumes are manufactured. His illusion will be immediately dispelled. He will come to the cenclusion that the panic was a phantasm-a good subject for newspaper men to write about. For our part, after having wandered through a labyrinth of dinner dresses, waiking dresses, visiting dresses, carriage dresses, evening dresses, fancy dresses, school dresses, laces, lingerie, paletots, furs, hats, boots and bonnets, we are inclined to think that there is as much money in the pocket of pateriamilias as ever, and that no very great persuasion is needed in order to induce it to come out. We have never seen the rooms of the modistes more crowded than they were yesterday or a greater variety of beautiful fabrics on hand. At Mme. Collins', No. 26 West Eleventh street; at the Maison Walton, No. 862 Broadway; at Mme. Lumley's, No. 110 West Twenty-third street; at C. M. Olney's, No. 30 East Fourteenth street; at Mme. Angle Perrie's, No. 48 University place; at Mme. Washington's, No. 773 Broadway; at the establishment of Miles. De l'Ouest and Hendrickx, No. 1,130 Broadway; at Mme. R. Kendall's, No. 719 Sixth avenue; at Smith's Pattern Bazaar, No. 914 Broadway; a Mmc. Grenier's, No. 32 West Ninth street; at Mrs. Myers', No. 22 East Fourteenth street; at Mrs. Van Dusen's, No. 35 West Eighteenth street; at Mme. Adolphus', No. 40 East Twentieth street, a more than usually large company of ladies were found inspecting, questioning, comparing and contrasting, testing the most piquant novelties, enchanted

THE SUBJECT OF BONNETS. As an object bonnets are apt to wear out. As a subject they never do. There is always something new to be said about them. They have monopo lized the invention of a very industrious and taste ful proportion of the gentler sex for the last 200 or 300 years, and they will continue to exercise it until that happy hour shall arrive when science shall govern the world. Then, we suppose, the bonnet will be constructed upon a sanitary model, and no woman will become the victim of neuralgia in the head from the unnatural exposure entailed by the knot of silk and lace which at present answers for feminine head year. To come down to facts, however, the most bizarre shapes continue to be worn, and no change for the better in this respect is promised in the January fashions. The bonnet of the period is a burlesque upon common sense, a very beautiful, a very dainty, a very exquisite buriesque, perhaps, but an undeniable buriesque, nevertheless. When M. Victor Hugo remarked that the beautiful is as useful as the useful he either saw no beauty in the bonnet of the day or he was not aware that a labric of that sort, laying claims to beauty, existed, else he must have modified his aphorism. We have seen during the past week namberless bonnets which are beautiful as wax flowers are beautiful, lit to be put under a glass and admired as a monument of wrongly directed skill. And the worst of it is that you cannot tell a bonnet from a lemale hat. We have seen lady connoisseurs sorely puzzled, until Mme. Tilman or some other distinguished anthority came to their renef. There ought to be an academy of modistes to determine these mooted questions. By the bye the attempt to popularize colored leits for hats and bonnets has almost failen through. Last winter no one could be found to give it a helping hand; this winter only a little progress has hitherto been made. Perhaps the most popular form is that known as "Gimmeux," the brim of which is wide, the crown low. The ornaments are of jet or steel, and the hat is worn at the back of the head. One of the episodes of the month, in relation to the kind of embellishment used for hats and bonnets, is the spreading partiality for jet and steel. Among the latter there are several styles, such as brown, blue and engraved. The subject of hats and bonnets naturally conducts to that of hoods and caps. The hood known as the "Barathea" is very pretty and comfortable. It is made of blue barathea, suitably lined and wadded with trimming of ruches, rolls and gross grain. Other hoods are of white and violet cashmere, and some very handsome ones of sik and tulie attracted a great deal of attention. Among caps were some of simple tulle, others of tulle and lace, and others again of Swiss mushn and lace and ribbons of various colors. Among caps, however, there is nothing absolutely new, and, in fact, it would puzzle the most accomplished mistress of tashion to devise a compl burlesque, perhaps, but an undeniable burlesque. nevertheless. When M. Victor Hugo remarked

with this and in despair over that, so that the uni-

make bonnets and costumes, and those whose

duty it was to try them on.

and, in fact, it would puzzie the most accomplished mistress of fashion to devise a complete originality in this line.

Ball, evening and pancy drawses.

Has it ever occurred to any of our readers that art is just as industrious as nature? Nature plods on in her slow, patient, unobtrusive manner, and accomplishes fine but very similar results year after year. The leaves and flowers perish on the October tree and bush, but we look forward to May with the certainty of seeing something just like them again, or so little different that the difference is hard to detect. Nature accomplishes her variegations slowly. She never startles us by a suddennew departure. She never introduces a new species all at once, but grinds it out leisurely in the gradual process of centuries. We are dead and turned to dust an age before the change which began while we were living is perceptible. Art works more rudely, perbaps, but more quickly, especially that variety of art which we find among milliners and dressmakers. New are

a kind of gardeners who, to borrow a similitude from Douglass Jerrold, are always tickling the soit of tashton with the hoe of change. They must have, not only a fresh harvest every year, but a harvest of fresh things. They must have new shapes, new colors, new materials, new combinations, in short new creations. With so vast an amount of labor, patience and invention, it would be strange indee. If some proportionate result were not attained. And, what is all the more startling, this department of art knows no rest, it must bloom and blossom, must flower and flourish in winter as well as summer, in autumn as well as spring. There is scarcely a week in the year when the mantuamaker may fold her hands and congratulate herself upon ended work. The quantity of ball, evening and fancy dresses for ladies at present on hand is an illustration in point. The dresses are rich in material and profuse in number. Among these we saw a skirt of poult de soie, blue in color. Its trimming consisted of a pleated flounce, of the same material, with bows and folds. There was also a waist and an overskirt of Chambéry gauze. An exquisite fancy dress was of rose-tinted cashmere. It was intended to allegorize the idea of sunset at sea. The trimmings were cloud-colored, and a mist-like sash was fastened with a star. One of the chastest of unpretending toliets was an evening dress of plain gray sitk, meant to be worn with a black-figured tuile and lace fichu. A second fancy costume was of crimson cashmere, trimmed with black velvet, fit to be worn by some ideal mikmaid. Numerous winte tarlatan ball dresses are to be seen. Skirt, overskirt and basque waist were of tarlatan. Very delicate and picturesque was a dress of violet-hued cashmere, which might appropriately be used in privale theatricals by a young lady assuming some such part as that of Marie in "La Fille du Régiment." The trimmings were principally of silver and white satin. An evening dress of dark green silk had a deeply pointed onsquine. The overskirt wat trimmed with Valenc a kind of gardeners who, to borrow a similitude

DINNER, VISITING AND CARRIAGE DRESSES. DINNEIL, VISITING AND CARRIAGE DRESSES.
One peculiarity of the lashionable woman is that she must have dresses for everything. It is hardly a figure of speech to say that she would not approach her dreator without being attired comane it faul. It is a part of her religion always to be perfectly well dressed. Some people say that it is the whole of her religion, but we are not so malicious as that. And this mania for perfection in costume is just as intense among the members of the demi-monde as in legitimate circles. A curious story which we have heard told of the notorious comtesse de M—, and which we believe has never appeared in print. Is a fair linstration of this point. The person whom we have mentioned is a very well known member of that fair, frail and brilliant sphere known as the demi-monde. She is equally celebrated for the homeliness of her features and the periection of her costume. One fine day her carriage stopping for a few moments in one of the drives of the Bois de Boulogne, was presently surrounded by a criticising crowd, such as only Paris could muster, and to ail of whom she was known by reputation. Comments were free upon her personal appearance, all of which she ignored with imperturbable sanagroid. Suddenly one of the crowd exclaimed, loud enough for all to hear. "Mon Dieu! now ugly she is!" "Yes; but how perfectly well dressed," exclaimed the Comitessa without for an instant losing countenance, and which its inhorm, decquired, and of which is inhorm, decquired, and of which the true cocotte is perfeat mistress. We trust this little digression may be pardoned, for it illustrates the ruling passion of two classes, which are as wide apart as the extremes of eternity, and which have nothing in common but a cultivated passion for dress, And now to our dinner, visiting, carriage and walking dresses. We saw a very rich damer dress of purple silk. It was made with a single skirt. The back breadths were trimmed with quillings of silk, the iron was earthlier. An extremely handsome but somewhat som

hair polonaises is extremely large, and her dolmans, sleveless and Louis XI. jackets are well worth
inspection. Her bonnets and hats are of the newest Parisian styles, and the Shan's incroyable,
negresse, Persian and silver lox muds and boas are
a unique and superb collection. Smith, at No. 914
Broadway, is remarkable for the novelty of his
designs. His Orlola suit, intended for the promenade, has charmed a great many visitors with
admiration. So has Le Capita, intended for house
and street, Patterns are ready for distribution,
and there are cloth models with every pattern.
Mme. Camille de Lacy, No. 8824 Broadway, has
some of the newest importations of bonnets, and at
Binns', No. 1,173 Broadway, velvet bonnets, ribbons,
flowers and feathers are selling very cheap. James
Russell, No. 33 East Twentieth street, intends
retiring from business and is selling cheap some
handsome camel's hair shawls and scarfs. We have
seen no better pargains of the kind elsewhere. In
regard to A. T. Siewart's establishment only a
word is necessary, and that is that the stock is just
as large, varied and valuable as it has been for many
years, and that as many novelties are to be encountered there as anywhere. W. K. Peyton & Co. have
a large stock of ladies' suits, cloaks, shawls and
dress goods, which they are disposing of at reasonable prices. An exceedingly large array of fanciflul accessories is discoverable at the store of Stern
Brothers, at the intersection of Sixth avenue and
Twenty-third street. H. O'Neill & Co., Nos. 327 and
329 Sixth avenue, have greatly reduced the prices
of their millinery goods. Their brocade, Scotch
and Roman sashes are both handsome and
cheap. The firm is rich in ostrich plumes
and tips, willow plumes, fancy feathers and
French flowers, and black taread, guipure,
and point lace. It has not less than 3,000 dozens of
Windsor ties, selling at less than half their former
prices. We might have mentioned, in speaking of
Stewart, that the best bargains offered by him are
his camel's hair suitings a verse for the moment seemed to be divided into two great classes-those whose duty is was to prices. We might have mentioned, in speaking of Stewart, that the best bargains offered by him are his camel's hair sultings and camel's hair cloths, his mixed wool fabrics, colored alpacas, all wool satines, diagonal serges, Empress cloths, dress pattern calcoes, Tycoon reps and dress goods, Mr. Letsinger, at No. 26 East Fourteenth street, has a unique patent known as the Vienna button boot. Lord & Taylor's remains one of the head-quarters for sliks, cloaks, shawls, furs, sealskin sacques, velvets, laces and fancy goods. Between the localities we have mentioned there is not so much room for choice as those who have habitually gone to the same place year after year would be apt to imagine. The spirit of rivalry has done much to equalize the merits of large establishments. And it is worth bearing in mind that almost anything that has an appreciable, exchangeable or intrinsic value, is worth giving or accepting as a present. There is a laise delicacy, and therefore some vulgarity, in that sentiment which hesitates about offering as a gift an article of wearing appared. The sentiment is a wholly conventional one and cannot be justified by reason. On the contrary, looked at in one light, it would seem as if the intrinsic value of a gift would be enhanced by the capability of continually bearing it about with one. The faise feeling to which we have alluded, however, is, we are glad to say, snared by but few.

Beyond this point upon which we have touched

bearing it about with one. The laise leeling it which we have aliuded, however, is, we are glad to say, snared by but few.

Beyond this point upon which we have touched in this and one or two other articles lies a wide realm of purchases, the contents of which are not easily classified, but among which we hope to be able to make our way. Meanwhile it is to be hoped the weather will for the next few days prove more propitious than it has lately been. The first half of yesterday was indeed gala-like, and the crowded streets and stores proved how determined the people were to make good use of it. But during the rest of the week storekeepers were complaining of the poverty of the contrast which the present season furnished to that of the previous years. Among milliners and dressmakers we did not hear the same lament. The behests of Fashion are imperative. She not only proposes but disposes, and is never permanently damaged even by bad weather.

CANAL TRANSPORTATION.

ALBANY, Dec. 20, 1873. Auditor Dayton received the following despatches

this afternoon:—
FULTONVILLE, Dec. 19, 1873.
We are just here from Schenectady with two tugs. Encountered some heavy ice. Fifteen boats with two tugs and 30 teams went East to-night. May get through if weather keeps favorable. The 51 boats that left Schenectady yesterday are locking through the sixteens to-day.

A. BARKLEY, Canal Commissioner. this afternoon :--

Twenty of the boats of the fleet that left Schenectady on the 18th stuck fast above the lower aqueduct yesterday. We now have them all here and will be through the sixteens to-night.

A. BARKLEY. Canal Commissioner.